

Dear Brother Jeremy and the Broadmoor Church,

Please accept my another brotherly greetings from the Philippines. It is my hope that you all continue doing well during this critical period.

The declared lockdown in our country began in mid March. Just in time for the completion of the 6-months oral medication of my wife. The follow-up check-up is pending due to the lockdown. However, we thank God, she is doing better now compared to before and during her 6-months medication where she was physically uncomfortable. Also, I thank the Lord for keeping me well during this period where we cannot afford to get sick due to the health department's priority on eradicating covid-19.

The lockdown includes prohibition of holding church gatherings, but, we never cancelled our regular Sunday services in Palagao during this 6 weeks period so far. The members are passing through the backdoor to come to church so that it won't be obvious to the village officials patrolling the area looking for violators. In Taligan, I missed attending with them the 1st 2 Sundays of the lockdown due to the very strict checkpoint along the border. The following Sundays I am able to pass by this checkpoint with a new strategy approach.

I find no enough reason for us to cease from gathering as there is no indication of a critical human-to-human transmission of the virus yet in our place. We are still safe to come together as a church. The only excuse is the government order of quarantine and social distancing. We have a mutual understanding @ Palagao Church and @ Taligan church. We sing, study, pray, observe the Lord's supper, give to the Lord as He bless us, worship Him as ever every Lord's day with our full trust, hope and confidence in Him as our Almighty Father. I have observed that all other churches of every kind in our area (including Churches of Christ) have been closed since the lockdown. 2 pastors of 2 denominations who conducted Sunday services the previous 2 Sundays were arrested for violating quarantine and social distancing. I hope I won't be the next, but, am ready for any eventuality. "We ought to obey God rather than men".

Thank you for the fellowship and thank you for your unwavering support. May God always bless and keep the entirety of the Broadmoor Congregation.

Your Brother in Philippines,
Santiago